

# ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

## *Outdoor Loading & Unloading*

**L**oading and unloading of materials usually takes place on outside docks or terminals; therefore, materials spilled, leaked, or lost during loading/unloading may collect in the soil or on other surfaces and have the potential to be carried away by stormwater runoff or when the area is cleaned. Additionally, rainfall may wash pollutants from machinery used to unload or move materials. Implementation of the following protocols will help prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to stormwater from outdoor loading/unloading of materials.

- ◆ Develop an operations plan that describes procedures for loading and/or unloading.
- ◆ Conduct loading and unloading in dry weather if possible.
- ◆ Cover designated loading/unloading areas to reduce exposure of materials to rain.
- ◆ Consider placing a seal or door skirt between delivery vehicles and building to prevent exposure to rain.
- ◆ Design loading/unloading area to prevent stormwater run-on, which would include grading or berming the area, and position roof downspouts so they direct stormwater away from the loading/unloading areas.
- ◆ Load/unload only at designated loading areas.



- ◆ Use drip pans underneath hose and pipe connections and other leak-prone spots during liquid transfer operations, and when making and breaking connections.
- ◆ Train employees in proper handling techniques during liquid transfers to avoid spills.
- ◆ The area where truck transfers take place should be paved. If the liquid is reactive with the asphalt, cement or concrete should be used to pave the area.
- ◆ Check loading and unloading equipment regularly for leaks, including valves, pumps, flanges, and connections.
- ◆ Train employees (e.g., fork lift operators) and contractors on proper spill containment and cleanup.
- ◆ Store and maintain appropriate spill cleanup materials in a location that is readily accessible.

